

NEWS

From County Supervisor Paul Biane

www.sbcounty.gov/Biane

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Jan 10, 2008

For more information, contact Matt Brown, Second District Chief of Staff (909) 387-4833

San Antonio Heights residents to receive CERT Training

SAN ANTONIO HEIGHTS – More than a dozen residents from this foothill community will receive training in January on how to help others during and after disasters.

San Bernardino County firefighters will provide more than 15 residents with basic training in survival and rescue skills so they can form a Community Emergency Response Team or CERT. The first of three training sessions will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Jan. 12 at Life Bible Fellowship Church. The last two training sessions will be held on the following Saturdays – Jan. 19 and 26.

"I applaud San Antonio Heights residents for taking the initiative to create a CERT program," said Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane, who represents the community as the County's Second District Supervisor. "Emergency resources will likely be stretched thin during a major disaster, so it's vital for the County to have trained volunteers who can respond to their communities' needs immediately."

San Antonio Heights residents are encouraged to participate in future CERT training sessions. Residents can contact Gary Crites of the San Antonio Heights Fire Safe Council at (909) 985-5444 for more information.

The San Bernardino County Office of Emergency Services has established CERT programs in the following communities: Forest Falls, Angles Oaks, Big Bear City, Fawnskin, Lytle Creek, Devore, Wrightwood, Phelan, Pinion Hills, Lucerne Valley, and Morongo Valley.

In addition, the cities of Fontana, Ontario, Apple Valley, Victorville, Yucca Valley, Redlands, Rialto, Colton, Loma Linda, and Grand Terrace also have CERT programs. The Office of Emergency Services estimates there are about 6,000 trained CERT volunteers in the County.

Members of the media are invited to attend one of the upcoming CERT training sessions.

###